

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

BIEN HOA 734-9

CAN THO 760-5

AMEMBASSY HONG KONG

NHA TRANG 0755-60

JEC PARIS 1020-5

DANANG 1083-8

USSAGE NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COGARD POLAD

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

UNCLAS STATE 014042

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 22 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

, PENTAGON SPOKESMAN STATES DOD HAD CAUTIONED US  
7TH FLEET TO AVOID INVOLVEMENT IN PARACELS CLASH,  
SAYS KNEW OF NO GVN REQUEST FOR AID DURING FIGHTING,  
DENIES SAIGON REPORTS THAT US PLANES FLEW RECON MISSIONS  
OVER ISLANDS AT REQUEST OF GVN, AND REPORTS US EMBASSY  
SAIGON LOOKING INTO STORIES OF AMERICAN KILLED IN  
PARACELS. DOS SPOKESMAN REITERATES POSITION THAT  
US NOT INVOLVED IN PARACELS DISPUTE BUT DESIRES PEACEFUL  
RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS; SAYS AMERICAN MISSING IN FIGHTING  
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IS DAO CIVILIAN WHO WAS ON SHORT VISIT AT INVITATION  
OF SVN NAVAL COMMANDER AT DA NANG (REUTER, NYT).  
SVN MILITARY SOURCES SAY GVN APPEAL FOR 7TH FLEET  
SHIPS AND CHOPPERS TO RESCUE PARACEL DEFENDERS REFUSED

BY AMB. MARTIN. UNABLE TO LEAVE, 150 VIETS AND ONE AMERICAN REPORTED KILLED OR CAPTURED. ARVN OFFICERS SAY MISSING AMERICAN STATIONED WITH GVN METEOROLOGICAL TEAM ON ROBERT IS. SVN OFFICIALLY CONCEDES DEFEAT. HSINHUA SAYS CHINA WILL RELEASE CAPTIVES AT "APPROPRIATE TIME," DOES NOT MENTION AMERICAN (UPI, NYT). WP QUOTES INFORMED SOURCES THAT US TURNED DOWN 3 GVN REQUESTS FOR HELP DURING FIGHTING, TWO FOR 7TH FLEET SHIPS TO SEARCH FOR SURVIVORS AND ONE FOR CHOPPERS FOR SAME MISSION. MCCOMBS FROM SAIGON QUOTES SVN NAVAL SOURCES THAT THIEU PERSONALLY ORDERED GVN BOATS TO FIRE FIRST SHOTS AFTER CHINESE PROVOKED SVN SHIPS IN AREA. GVN SPOKESMAN GIVES TALLY AS TWO CHINESE SHIPS SUNK, TWO BADLY DAMAGED; ONE GVN SHIP SUNK, 3 DAMAGED; 11 SVN SAILORS KILLED, 35 WOUNDED AND 82 MISSING; FATE OF 150 GVN MILITIAMEN ON ISLANDS UNKNOWN. MCCOMBS BELIEVES GVN MFA PAVING WAY FOR DIPLOMATIC, RATHER THAN FURTHER MILITARY, EFFORT WITH REQUEST TO UNSC TO CONSIDER CHINESE "ACTS OF WAR" (ALSO AP CHITRIB, NYDN, SUN; UPI, S-N 1/21; PHINQ).

2. SENIOR LONDON DIPLOMATS BELIEVE PRC EXPULSION OF GVN FROM PARACELS DEMONSTRATES PEKING RESOLVE TO CLAIM ABOUT 150 ISLANDS ALONG ASIAN CONTINENTAL SHELF. GOAL IS OIL, BELIEVED BENEATH SEA FLOOR. OTHERS BESIDES SVN COULD CHALLENGE PRC CLAIM TO VARIOUS ISLANDS IN REGION (AP, S-N 1/21). UNSC PRES. SAYS SVN REQUEST RECEIVED, EXPECTS CALL MEETING BY WEDNESDAY. CHINA OPPOSES MOVE AND DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES DOUBT SVN COULD GET NEEDED 9 VOTES (OUT OF 15) TO PUT ISSUE ON AGENDA (PHINQ).

3. IN STORMY JOINT SESSION, GVN SENATE AND LOWER HOUSE PASS BILL PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT EXTENDING PRES. TERM FROM 4 TO 5 YEARS AND ALLOWING RE-ELECTION TWICE. CHANGES GREETED WITH VIOLENT UNCLASSIFIED

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DISAPPROVAL BY OPPOSITION. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PASSAGE OF BILL FOLLOWED BY HURLING OF ASH TRAYS, MICROPHONES AND NOTE PADS TO FLOOR (CSM). MCARTHUR (LAT JAN. 20) FROM SAIGON REPORTS ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FOR THIRD TERM, SAYING THIEU USED "OVERWHELMING MAJORITY" TO "RAM THROUGH" CHANGE; SOME OPPOSITION LEADERS 'ATER SHAVED HEADS AND HELD SMALL DEMONSTRATION. BILL LATER SHAVED HEADS AND HELD SMALL DEMONSTRATION. BILL PASSED CLOSE TO TET, WHEN NEWSPAPERS DON'T PUBLISH FOR FOUR DAYS, SO MCARTHUR BELIEVES REACTION WILL BE MUTED. LEGISLATURE ALSO PASSED BILLS PERMITTING PRESIDENT TO "HAND-PICK" SUPREME COURT JUDGES, AND CANCELING ELECTIONS THIS YEAR FOR PROVINCE CHIEFS.

THIEU SUPPORTERS CLAIM CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES NEEDED TO PERMIT STRONG SAIGON RESPONSE TO NVN PRESSURES. MCARTHUR COMMENTS THAT GENUINE FEELINGS OF VIETS HARD TO DEFINE IN PRESENT CONFUSED CLIMATE OF WAR, ECON DEPRESSION AND OUTWARD POLITICAL APATHY.

4. JOHN BOONE, DIRECTOR NATIONAL COALITION FOR CORRECTIONAL CHANGE AND FORMER CORRECTION COMMISSIONER OF MASS., AND THREE OTHERS HOLD NYC PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING TWO-WEEK TRIP TO SVN. BOONE SAYS SVN JAILS FULL OF POLITICAL PRISONERS DETAINED WITHOUT TRIAL, TORTURED AND FINALLY GIVEN FIVE-MINUTE HEARINGS, CONTRARY TO AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S STATEMENT TO HIM THAT THERE ARE ONLY 34,000 INMATES AND NONE IS POLITICAL PRISONER. NONE OF AMERICANS WAS ABLE TO VISIT JAILS, SAY "OBSERVATIONS" BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH FORMER PRISONERS AND FAMILIES OF PRISONERS (NYT).

5. SEN. KENNEDY ANNOUNCES 7.2 MILLION DOLS AID ALLOCATION (COMPARED TO 1.3 MILLION LAST YEAR) FOR SERVICES TO CHILDREN IN SVN, INCLUDING ORPHAN ADOPTION. AID ADMINISTRATOR IN LETTER SAYS ABOUT 5000 VIET ORPHANS CONSIDERED AVAILABLE FOR OVERSEAS ADOPTION (ABOWT 1300 ADOPTED OVERSEAS SINCE 1970), AND GVN HAS IMPROVED PROCESS TO SPEED PLACEMENT (AP, UPI). FLASTE (NYT) REPORTS THAT ADOPTION STILL FAR FROM SIMPLE, BUT EASIER THAN IN PAST, DESCRIBES HOLT ADOPTION PROGRAM OF UNCLASSIFIED

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EUGENE, ORE.

6. SOUTHERLAND (CSM) FROM SAIGON REPORTS CRUCIAL BATTLE FIVE MILES NW OF PP THREATENS AIRPORT. GKR CALLS REINFORCEMENTS FROM BATTAMBANG AS LON NOL, IN RADIO BROADCAST, SAYS ENEMY OFFENSIVE WILL BE DECISIVE. SVN SOURCES DO NOT SEE PP OVERRUN BY FORCE, BUT EXPECT PRESSURE TO CONTINUE TO FORCE INTERNAL COLLAPSE OR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT FAVORABLE TO COMMUNISTS. SOME WESTERN DIPLOMATS CONVINCED CURRENT ATTACKS ARE PRELUDE TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. ROCKETS ON PP ARE DEMORALIZING BUT HAVE LITTLE MILITARY EFFECT; SEVERAL EMBASSIES EVACUATING DEPENDENTS. REBELS ARE WELL-ENTRENCHED 2-3 MILES NORTH OF AIRPORT. SVN OFFICIALS NOT INDIFFERENT TO PLIGHT OF GKR ALLIES, BUT SAY PRIVATELY THAT GVN IN NO POSITION TO HELP.

7. MILITARY COMMAND SAYS FOUR ROCKETS HIT PP, KILL 2 AND WOUND 8. FANK CLAIMS HEAVY CASUALTIES ON REBELS 8 MILES NW OF PP. REBELS PRESS ON TOWN 15 MILES SOUTH OF CAPITAL (REUTER, NYT). AFP FROM CANTON QUOTES SIHANOUK IN INTERVIEW THAT "PEOPLE'S FORCES" AROUND PP TELL HIM THEY WOULD DO "UTMOST TO END IT THIS YEAR".

PRINCE REAFFIRMS NO-COMPROMISE STAND WITH PP LEADERS, BLAMES US FOR WAR, REJECTS CONTACT, TALKS OR ANY POLITICAL SOLUTION OTHER THAN "ACCEPTANCE BY US ...OF TOTAL TAKE-OVER OF PP AND THUS OF CAMBODIA" (NYT).

JAPAN

8. IN POLICY SPEECH BEFORE PARLIAMENT, TANAKA SAYS JAPAN MUST "GIVE EAR HUMBLY TO REASONABLE CRITICISMS AGAINST JAPAN, CORRECT WHAT WE SHOULD ...AND IMPROVE OUR MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP" IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO ASIAN PEACE. OHIRA ECHOES PM'S SENTIMENTS, BUT IN MORE GENERAL PROPOSALS. BOTH CITE DIFFICULTIES JAPANESE HAVE IN LEARNING OTHER LANGUAGES, IN MIXING EASILY AND IN REALIZING THAT MANNERS AND WAYS ACCEPTABLE IN JAPAN MAY NOT BE PROPER ABROAD (NYT). WP'S OBERDORFER, IN TOKYO, NOTES THAT, AS IN PAST, BOTH JAPANESE LEADERS EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR US-JAPAN MST.

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9. HALLORAN (NYT), IN TOKYO, REPORTS WARNINGS BY FUKUDA AND UCHIDA, IN SPEECHES TO PARLIAMENT, THAT JAPAN FACES INFLATION ECONOMIC ORDEAL. FUKUDA "APPEARED TO HAVE ONE EYE CAST SQUARELY" ON NEXT SPRING'S HOUSE ELECTIONS, WHEN HE SUGGESTED THAT MANY JAPANESE ARE CRYING FOR RELIEF FROM ECON HARDSHIP. SUN'S SEIDEN OBSERVES JAPAN'S HOARDING PROBLEM HAS GROWN TO POINT WHERE "HOARDING HAS BECOME A WAY OF LIFE HERE," ADDING TO NATION'S ALREADY SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. RETURNING JAPANESE TOURISTS ARE BRINGING HOME ARTICLES THEY EXPECT WILL BE HARD TO FIND IN TOKYO, ALL OVER COUNTRY SHOPPERS ARE BUYING TODAY TO AVOID PAYING TOMORROW'S PRICES, AND WAVES OF PANIC BUYING HAVE CREATED ARTIFICIAL SHORTAGES. SPORADIC SHORTAGES DRIVE ALREADY INFLATED PRICES EVEN HIGHER AND SOME DISTRIBUTORS REPORTEDLY HOARDING STOCKS IN WAREHOUSES AWAITING EVEN HIGHER PRICES.

10. CHITRIB REPORTS JAPAN ENDED 1973 WITH MASSIVE 10.07 BILLION DOLLAR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT, IN STUNNING REVERSAL OF 4.74 BILLION DOLLAR NET INFLOW OF 1972, ACCORDING TO FINANCE MINISTRY. TOYOTA RAISES PRICES OF ALL MODELS FOR SECOND TIME IN THREE MONTHS IN WAKE OF SIMILAR ACTION BY OTHER JAPANESE AUTO MAKERS (UPI WP, NY).

11. JOC'S CULLISON, IN TOKYO, REPORTS FOREIGN EXCHANGE MART REMAINED CLOSED MONDAY AND LIKELY WILL BE CLOSED AGAIN TUESDAY OUT OF FEARS THAT FRANC DEVALUATION MIGHT TRIGGER FURTHER DETERIORATION OF YEN. JOC TOKYO NOTES THAT UK INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER IN ADDRESS TO JAPAN PRESS CLUB CAME CLOSEST YET TO

SAYING THAT JAPAN HAS HOPE OF SHARING IN NORTH SEA OIL.

12. REUTER'S MACKENZIE, IN TOKYO, REPORTS THAT SATURDAY'S GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF EMPEROR AND EMPRESS WILL BE VERY MUCH FAMILY AFFAIR, IN KEEPING WITH COUPLE'S CUSTOMARY HABIT OF REMAINING CUT OFF FROM JAPANESE MASSES.  
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CHINA

13. SUN'S HK DISPATCH SEES WORDING OF PRC STATEMENT ON PARACELS CLASH WITH GVN AS SUGGESTING THAT PRISONERS CAPTURED BY CHINESE MAY BE HELD UNTIL SVN NAVAL FORCES HAVE LEFT VICINITY OF ISLANDS, EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS NOT STATED EXPLICITLY BY CHINA.

14. USSR PROTESTS TO PRC AMBASSADOR OVER PEKING'S EXPULSION OF FIVE RUSSIAN DIPLOMATS SATURDAY FOR ALLEGED ESPIONAGE. MOSCOW SOURCES REPORT KREMLIN HAS EXPELLED PRC ATTACHE IN "TOKEN" RETALIATION (REUTER NYT, SUN; WP).

15. NYT MOSCOW DISPATCH SUGGESTS THAT SPEED OF SOVIET'S DENUNCIATION OF PRC EFFORTS TO LURE TOKYO AS OIL CUSTOMER INDICATES HOW SENSITIVE SOVIET IS AT ANY HINT OF CHINESE COMPETITION FOR JAPANESE MARKET, AND, MORE BROADLY, SHOWS USSR FEELS KEEN SENSE OF RIVALRY WITH CHINA IN POLITICAL-ECONOMIC MANEUVERING OF MAJOR POWERS IN ASIA.

KOREA

16. ROKG MILITARY AUTHORITIES SAY THEY HAVE ARRESTED ELEVEN PERSONS, INCLUDING TEN CHRISTIAN CLERGYMEN, ON CHARGES OF VIOLATING PARK'S ORDER BANNING ACTIVITIES CRITICAL OF SK CONSTITUTION. ARRESTS BRING TO THIRTEEN NUMBER DETAINED UNDER JAN. 8 DECREE (UPI WP, NYDN; NYT). PRO-GOVT. FEDERATION OF KOREAN TRADE UNIONS ACCUSES CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS OF INTERFERING WITH UNION ACTIVITIES (NYT).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

17. GLOBE'S CROCKER SNOW (JAN. 20) DESCRIBES KIM DAE JUNG'S SITUATION AS "CAUTIOUS, PARTIALLY BROKEN, FUTURE UNKNOWN." SAYS SAME COULD BE SAID FOR SK AS A WHOLE AFTER TWO WEEKS OF SWEEPING EMERGENCY DECREES ISSUED BY PARK UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HIS  
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HARDLINE MILITARY ADVISERS. CITES KIM AS JUDGING THAT HIS CHANCES ARE 50-50 FOR LEAVING KOREA FOR HARVARD AND FOR TREATMENT OF HIS MEDICAL PROBLEMS. ALSO QUOTES KIM AS SAYING "WE NEED ONLY YOUR MORAL SUPPORT... WE INSIST THAT OUR DEMOCRACY SHOULD BE RECOVERED WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE FROM THE US OR JAPAN." SNOW OBSERVES MELANCHOLY MOOD REFLECTED ELSEWHERE IN CITY, NOTING THAT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WHO TOUCHED OFF CURRENT SITUATION BY STREET DEMONSTRATIONS LAST FALL SEEM INTIMIDATED AND UNORGANIZED. IN SUPPORT, CITES EWEA WOMENS UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADER AS SAYING THAT THE ROKG IS MUCH BETTER ORGANIZED TO GARD AGAINST DEMONSTRATIO THAN STUDENTS ARE TO RECONSTRUCT THEM; ADDING, MOREOVER, THE COMMON PEOPLE DON'T WANT ANARCHY AND CHAOS- THEY SIMPLY WANT MORE MONEY AND FOOD AND CLOTHING, AND CURRENT GOVT. MAY BE IN THE BEST POSITION TO GIVE IT TO THEM. SNOW COMMENTS THAT THE POINT IS WELL TAKEN, POINTING OUT THAT DESPITE 10 PERCENT GROWTH IN GNP, PER CAPITA ANNUAL INCOME IS JUST 370 DOLS. FACED WITH RISIG ENERGY AND COMMODITY COSTS AND INFLATION, PARK HOPES TO QUELL TRENDS WITH HIS NEW ECON DECREE WHICH SEEKS TO HELP THE LITTLE MAN,INHIBIT LUXURY SPENDING, AND GENERALLY LEAD TO A TIGHTER SHIP AT THE TOP AND A HAPPIER CREW BELOW DECKS. PARK AND HIS SUBORDINATES FEEL WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION THAT SUCH NORMAL DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES AS CRITICISM OF GOVT. AND DEMONSTRATIONS ARE MISREAD BY NK AS SIGN OF POLITICAL DISINTEGRATION. BUT ASIDE FROM PROMOTING MORE DISCONTENT WITHIN, SOURCES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE UNMISTAKABLE AURA OF A DICTATORSHIP WILL STRENGTHEN HAND OF THOSE IN US CONGRESS WHO WANT WITHDRAWAL OF US TROOPS FROM SK.

18. LAT'S ELEGANT (JAN. 19) IN JAKARTA REPORTS SUHARTO GOVT. DETAINING LEADERS FOR INTERROGATION, AMONG THEM CRUSADING LAWYER BUYUNG NASUTION. ALMOST ALL 200 DETAINEES WERE EXPECTED TO BE RELEASED WITHIN 48 HOURS. REPORTS THAT GOI REACTED TO RECENT PROTESTS WITH MIXTURE OF "REPRESSIVE" MEASURES AND DELIBERATELY PLACATORY WORDS TOWARD RAMPAGING YOUNG DEMONSTRATORS, BUT INFORMED INDO AND FOREIGN SOURCES FELT REPRESSIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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MEASURES WOULD DOMINATE FOR THE MOMENT. GOI IS NOW MORE KEENLY AWARE OF HOW DEEP THE ROOTS OF DISCONTENT REACH. TANAKA'S VISIT WAS MERELY THE OCCASION FOR A DEMONSTRATION BY THOSE WHO FEEL THAT ECON DEVELOPMENT IS MARRED NOT ONLY BY CORRUPTION BUT ALSO BY LACK OF CONCERN FOR THE COMMON MAN. MUCH POPULAR RESENTMENT

DIRECTED AGAINST SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC "TECHNOCRATS," WHO WERE THE INTELLECTUAL LEADERS OF THE ANTI-SUKARNO MOVEMENT THAT PLACED SUHARTO IN POWER. MAJOR NEWS MAGAZINE WHICH WENT TO PRESS BEFORE THE RIOTS VEHEMENTLY ATTACKED THE TECHNOCRATS FOR THEIR FAILURE TO SPREAD THE BENEFITS OF ECON DEVELOPMENT TO THE MASSES. MAGAZINE ALSO ATTACKED GOVT. PLANNERS FOR THEIR PRESUMED CONNECTIONS WITH US CIA - LARGELY ON BASIS OF WHAT HAD BEEN GLEANED FROM RAMPARTS MAGAZINE ON CIA-FUNDED PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES THAT MOST OF THOSE PLANNERS HAVE ATTENDED. OBSERVES, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS NO OVERT ANTI-US FLAVOR TO THE DEMONSTRATIONS.

19. IN JAN. 20 ARTICLE FROM JAKARTA, LAT'S ELEGANT VIEWS LAST WEEK'S VIOLENCE AS TRIUMPH OF MISCALCULATION BY BOTH THE GOVT. AND DISSIDENTS. MAJOR CONFRONTATION STILL IMPENDS BETWEEN TWO FORCES. ON ONE SIDE IS SUHARTO ADMINISTRATION, DEDICATED TO LAW AND ORDER COMBINED WITH RAPID ECON GROWTH EVEN AT COST OF GLARING SOCIAL INJUSTICE; ON OTHER SIDE ARE LIBERAL INTELLECTUALS, WHO HAVE BEEN QUIETLY PROTESTING ECON INEQUALITY FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS. BUT NEITHER GROUP REALLY ANTICIPATED OR WANED THE COLLISION WHICH ENDED WITH WIDESPREAD - BUT SUPERFICIAL - PROPERTY DAMAGE AND DEATH OF AT LEAST 13 DEMONSTRATORS. FEARFUL THAT ITS POWER WAS IMPERILED, GOVT. OVERREACTED AND IS STILL OVERREACTING - AT LEAST VERBALLY - BY THREATENING TO SHOOT ANYONE CAUGHT DAMAGING JAPANESE-MADE PROPERTY. MORE SERIOUSLY, HIGHLY RESPECTED INTELLECTUALS "DETAINED FOR INTERROGATION" HAVE NOT YET BEEN RELEASED. UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WHO PLANNED THE ORIGINAL PEACEFUL PROTEST AGAINST JAPANESE ECON POLICIES WERE ALSO SURPRISED BY VIOLENCE, AND WHEN UNEMPLOYED YOUTH BEGAN RAMPAGING, STUDENT LEADERS DISSOCIATED THEMSELVES FROM DEMONSTRATION  
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THAT TURNED INTO RIOT. QUOTES INDOS, WHO LIVED THROUGH SUKARNO TYRANNY, THAT THEY HAD FEARS BEFORE DEMONSTRATIONS THEY CITED THE ANTI-INTELLECTUALISM AND HASTY REPRESSION DISPLAYED BY GOI, BUT AT SAME TIME THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SUHARTO IS NEITHER MEGALOMANIAC NOR DEMAGOGUE, AND COMPLAINTS OF MASSES ARE NOT TOTALLY IGNORED AS THEY WERE BY SUKARNO. ELEGANT COMMENTS THAT IT WILL BE SEVERAL WEEKS - PERHAPS MONTHS - BEFORE DIRECTION GOI CHOOSES WILL BE DISCERNIBLE; CHOICE LIES BETWEEN INCREASING REPRESSION AND READINESS TO RECTIFY ECON INJUSTICE.

20. FROM HONG KONG, LAT'S ELEGANT (JAN. 20) OBSERVES PRC GIVING LESS ATTENTION AND SUPPORT TO REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS WHILE DISPLAYING GREATER INTEREST IN CONVENTIONA

DIPLOMACY AND TRADE WITH ESTABLISHED GOVTS. SAYS PRC'S MARKED CHANGE OF ATTITUDE NOT ENTIRELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO ITS US RELATIONSHIP, BECAUSE DURING VN WAR PEKING DECIDED THAT INDISCRIMINATE SUPPORT OF LOCAL INSURGENTS, PARTICULARLY NVN, COULD RUN COUNTER TO CHINESE NATIONAL INTERESTS. DURING PAST TWO YEARS, LEVEL OF MATERIAL SUPPORT DECLINED SHARPLY, BUT EVEN MORE REMARKABLY, NCNA AND PRC'S CENTRAL BROADCASTING STATION HAVE SOFTENED THEIR PRAISE OF INSURGENTS AND THEIR DENUNCIATION OF ESTABLISHED GOVTS. NOTES ALSO THAT PEKING HAS REVERTED TO POSITION IT OFTEN ESPOUSED - AND ALMOST AS OFTEN IGNORED OR REPUDIATED - IN THE PAST, THAT

OF URGING OVERSEAS CHINESE TO BE GOOD CITIZENS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE NATIONS. CONTENDS THAT AS RESULT OF LESSENED SUPPORT, LOCAL INSURGENTS HAVE BEEN AFFLICTED WITH DOCTRINAL SPLITS. AS IN THE CASE OF THE MALAYSIAN CP, THE QUESTION IS: "SHALL WE CONTINUE TO STRESS ARMED REVOLT OR SHALL WE REENTER THE EXISTING SOCIAL-POLITICAL STRUCTURE AND ATTAIN POWER THROUGH QUASI-LEGAL MEANS?" CHINA'S PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOM FURTHER SAP THE WILL OF THE MCP. PEKING'S ATTITUDE TOWARD SEA INSURGENCIES, ELEGANT NOTES, IS NOT WHOLLY CONSISTENT, SINCE CLANDESTINE RADIOS BASED IN CHINA BROADCAST AS "VOICES" OF THAI, BURMESE AND MALAYSIAN INSURGENTS, THUS KEEPING ITS OPTIONS OPEN FOR REVERSION UNCLASSIFIED

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TO VOCAL SUPPORT OF INSURGENTS. HOWEVER, A POLICY ONCE ALTERED RADICALLY, ELEGANT CONCLUDES, IS NOT EASILY RETURNED TO ITS FORMER COURSE.

21. LAT'S LAMB (JAN. 20) IN SYDNEY RECALLS THAT A YEAR AGO, WHEN ALP TOOK OVER, IT ANNOUNCED A MAJOR OVERHAUL OF IMMIGRATION POLICIES TO REMOVE LAST VESTIGES OF "WHITE AUSTRALIA POLICY." FINDS RHETORIC MORE RADICAL THAN THE RESULTS, AND IDEALS TEMPERED WITH REALITIES. REPORTS THAT OF 26,013 ASSISTED PASSAGES DURING ALP'S FIRST 6 MONTHS IN OFFICE, TWO WERE INDIAN, ONE MALAYSIAN, ONE JAPANESE AND NONE FROM BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN, SINGAPORE, CEYLON, BURMA, PHILS, INDONESIA, THAILAND, CAMBODIA, VN, KOREA OR TAIWAN. CITES IMMIGRATION MINISTER GRASSBY AS SAYING, "OUR ASIAN NEIGHBORS WERE HAPPY TO SEE DISCRIMINATION ENDED BUT THERE HAS BEEN ZERO INTEREST IN TERMS OF EMIGRATION FROM THOSE COUNTRIES TO AUSTRALIA. THESE COUNTRIES ARE NOT INTERESTED IN EXPORTING PEOPLE THAT THEY MIGHT NEED THEMSELVES." LAMB NOTES THAT WITH ECONOMY TURNING SLUGGISH AND UNEMPLOYMENT REACHING 2 PERCENT, GOA CUT ITS INTAKE OF IMMIGRANTS 21 PERCENT TO 110,000 FOR THE YEAR AND SAID FUTURE APPLICANTS WOULD NEED BRAINS, NOT JUST BRAWN.



22. CSM'S ERIC BOURNE IN VIENNA REPORTS USSR STEPPING UP EFFORTS TO PROMOTE "UNITY" MEETING OF CPS, I.E., SEEKING SUPPORT VIS-A-VIS PRC AND FOR THEIR RAPPROCHEMENT WITH WEST. LATEST PROD TOWARD UNITY MEETING CAME IN JAN. 7-9 GATHERING IN PRAGUE OF LEADING IDEOLOGISTS FROM 67 CPS, BIGGEST SUCH PARLEY SINCE 1969. BOURNE RECALLS THAT EARLIER UNITY CONFERENCE AFFORDED SOVIETS LITTLE REAL SATISFACTION, SINCE MANY CPS DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE, AND MANY THAT WERE REPRESENTED CONSPIRED TO BALK ANY FORMAL ANTI-PRC POSITION. INDICATIONS ARE THAT THINGS WON'T BE DIFFERENT NEXT TIME.

23. NYT MOSCOW REPORTS BREZHNEV TO VISIT CUBA BEGINNING JAN. 28 OR 29. DEPARTURE NOT YET OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED, BUT SOVIET PRESS HAS BEGUN TO BUILD UP VISIT AS "HISTORIC EVENT." VISIT WOULD APPARENTLY REPRESENT USSR EFFORT UNCLASSIFIED

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TO LINE UP SUPPORT FOR WORLD COMMUNIST CONFERENCE IN WHICH USSR WOULD LIKE TO OSTRACIZE CHINA. NYT WASHINGTON REPORTS LATIN-AMERICAN SPECIALISTS BELIEVING CUBAN LEADERSHIP WILL BACK BREZHNEV'S ANTI-PRC POLICY MOST OF THE WAY, CITING CASTRO'S STRONG SUPPORT OF USSR AT ALGIERS NAC, CUBAN ATTACKS ON PRC AT UNGA, ETC. HOWEVER, ATTITUDES OF OTHER LATIN-AMERICAN CPS APPEAR IN DOUBT, WITH PRO-PRC SPLINTER PARTIES IN AT LEAST SIX LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES. AND IN MEXICO, OFFICIAL CP HAS TAKEN RATHER INDEPENDENT LINE TOWARD USSR OVER LAST SIX YEARS. SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAS ALMOST NO SUPPORTERS AMONG ASIAN CPS AND LIMITED BACKING FROM SOME WE PARTIES. ROMANIANS AND ALBANIANS, AND TO LESSER DEGREE, YUGOSLAVS HAVE OPPOSED MOVES TO CONDEMN PRC. US OFFICIALS WHO WATCH COMMIE WORLD BELIEVE BREZHNEV IS USING CHINA ISSUE PRIMARILY AS MEANS OF REASSERTING CONTROL OVER MAJORITY OF THESE STRAYING PARTIES. THEY BELIEVE THAT SOVIET LEADERSHIP WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT KEEPING ITS IMAGE AS "VANGUARD" OF WORLD'S COMMUNISTS IN ERA OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, WHEN TEMPTATIONS FOR DEVIATION FROM MOSCOW LINE MIGHT INCREASE.

24. CSM'S SAIKOWSKI CITES CHINA-WATCHERS AS CAUTIONING AGAINST READING TOO MUCH INTO PRC'S EXPULSION OF SOVIET CITIZENS ON SPY CHARGES. NOTES THERE ARE CONTRADICTORY ASPECTS TO SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS, AND IT IS NEVER CERTAIN TO WHAT EXTENT MUTUAL RECRIMINATIONS ARE IDEOLOGICAL OR NATIONALISTIC. ON VERBAL LEVEL, SITUATION HAS NOT IMPROVED; THE CHINESE PRESS IN RECENT WEEKS HAS EPPED UP ANTI-SOVIET RHETORIC AS THE RUSSIANS WAGE UNRELENTING PROPAGANDA DRIVE AGAINST THE CHINESE

ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES. EE, AS PRELUDE TO  
A WORLD COMMIE CONFERENCE WHICH THE SOVIET BLOCK  
IS NOW PROMOTING, HAVE ALSO STEPPED UP THEIR TIRADES  
AGAINST MAOIST LEADERSHIP. BUT ON PRACTICAL SIDE,  
THERE ARE SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN RELATIONS. AIR AGREEMENT  
WAS SIGNED RECENTLY AND MOSCOW-PEKING FLIGHTS ARE  
EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN ABOUT A MONTH; TRADE NOW AT  
ABOUT 250 MILLION DOLS/YEAR IS A PERCEPTIBLE INCREASE  
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OVER NEGLIGIBLE AMOUNT IN YEARS AFTER THE IDEOLOGICAL  
BREAK.

25. FROM JAKARTA, NYT'S SCHANBERG REPORTS INTERVIEW  
WITH 15 STUDENTS ON U OF INDONESIA CAMPUS. BEFORE  
TALKING TO NEWSMEN, STUDENTS DEMANDED ASSURANCES  
THAT THEIR NAMES WOULD NOT BE USED AND THAT IT WOULD  
BE MADE CLEAR THEY WERE NOT SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OR STUDENT ORGANIZATION, BUT EXPRESSING  
PERSONAL OPINION; "WE CAN GO TO JAIL," ONE WHISPERED.  
STUDENTS EXPLAINED THAT WHILE COMPLAINTS AGAINST  
JAPANESE "ECONOMIC COLONIALISM" WERE DEEPLY FELT,  
MAIN ISSUE IS CORRUPTION AND MAL-DISTRIBUTION OF  
INCOME. THEY SAID THAT ALTHOUGH STUDENTS INITIATED  
DEMONSTRATIONS, FEW IF ANY JOINED IN THE DESTRUCTIVE  
RAMPAGE THAT GREW OUT OF THEM. ONE STUDENT SAID  
THE PEOPLE DID THE BURNING, "BUT WE ARE MADE THE  
SCAPEGOATS. THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTS OUR LEADERS."  
ONE RECALLED GOVT. PROMISES TO CARRY ON BETTER DIALOGUE  
WITH THE POPULACE, BUT ANOTHER SAID THE GOVT. DOESN'T  
WANT TO LISTEN, "IT'S MILITARY POWER NOW. THE MILITARY  
WANTS TO DESTROY DEMOCRACY - BY CENSORING PAPERS,  
BANNING STUDENT POLITICS..." STUDENTS MADE DISTINCTION  
BETWEEN TWO KINDS OF CORRUPTION AND SAY THEIR PROTESTS  
WERE DIRECTED AT RICH, NOT BOTTOM-LEVEL CIVIL SERVANTS  
EARNING NO MORE THAN 15 OR 20 DOLS/MONTH. SCHANBERG  
NOTES STRONG SENSE OF HONESTY AND IDEALISM AMONG  
STUDENTS, BUT ALSO A TASTE OF NAIVETE WHICH THEY  
THEMSELVES RECOGNIZE. THEY SAY THEY SHOULD MAKE  
EFFORT TO SUPPORT THE POOR, BUT ADMIT THEY AREN'T  
DOING IT NOW. SONS OF THE MIDDLE CLASS, THEY SAY  
THEY LIVE IN THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS AND HAVE NO  
CONTACT WITH SLUMS. SCHANBERG REPORTS INTERVIEW  
INTERRUPTED BY LECTURER (HOLDER OF PHD FROM U OF  
PITTSBURGH) WHO SHOUTED: "THERE ARE MORE THAN FIVE  
PEOPLE ASSEMBLED HERE - THIS IS FORBIDDEN." STUDENTS  
PADDED UNHAPPILY OUT; LAST ONE TURNED TO FOREIGNERS  
AND SAID: "NOW YOU SEE WHAT OUR TROUBLE IS."

26. SUN'S ISAACS IN HONG KONG EXPRESSES VIEW THAT  
ANTI-JAPANESE RIOTS IN THAILAND AND INDONESIA HAD  
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PRE-TANAKA ROOTS IN DISCONTENT OF POOR AND MIDDLE CLASSES.

27. NYT'S CLARITY IN BANGKOK FINDS AMBIVALENT ATTITUDES TOWARD THAI STUDENT ACTIVISM. SOME FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN GRUMBLE THAT STUDENTS ARE ANARCHISTS WHO, IN EFFECT, IMPEDE EARNING OF MONEY FOR DEPOSIT ABROAD; ONE WESTERN-ORIENTED DIPLOMAT SYMPATHETIC TO STUDENT MOVEMENT CONCEDED THAT IF STUDENTS ARE NOT CAREFUL THEY WILL UNDERMINE THEMSELVES. HOWEVER, CLARITY CLAIMS, MOST THAIS SEEM TO HAVE ADOPTED TOLERANT, IF NERVOUS, ATTITUDE TOWARD RECENT STUDENT ACTIONS. THEY SAY THAT MUCH OF WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE ARE PROTESTING NEEDS TO BE PROTESTED BECAUSE INTERIM GOVT. IS OFTEN MOUSELIKE AND HOLDOVER BUREAUCRACY IS ELEPHANTINE. BANGKOK PEOPLE WERE DISMAYED WHEN STUDENT WAS KILLED DURING FIGHTING BETWEEN STUDENT FACTIONS AT ROCK CONCERT. BUT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST TANA A AND KINTNER SEEMED TO HAVE IMPLICIT APPROVAL OF LOCAL PRESS AND SOME THAI POLITICAL FIGURES. NOTES THAT LARGER STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, AWARE OF PUBLIC TENDENCY TO LUMP ALL STUDENT ACTIONS TOGETHER, HAVE APPOINTED MARSHALS TO CONTROL YOUNG PEOPLE AT DEMONSTRATIONS AND HAVE BEGUN TO MOVE INTO WORK THAT IS LIKELY TO GAIN THEM PUBLIC SUPPORT. SAYS FEW EDUCATED THAIS OR FOREIGNERS SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THAT STUDENT LEADERS ARE HARD-CORE ANARCHISTS, SUBVERSIVES OR COMMIES, AS CHARACTERIZED BY PREVIOUS MILITARY GOVT. MOST TEND TO FEEL THAT PARLIAMENTARY GOVT. HAS BETTER-THAN-EVEN CHANCE TO SURVIVE IF ECON PROBLEMS BROUGHT ON BY FUEL CRISIS DO NOT BECOME UNBEARABLE AND STUDENT REVOLUTION DOES NOT BACKFIRE.

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HONG KONG  
NHA TRANG  
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